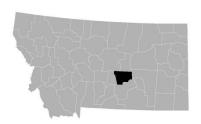
# FLOOD INSURANCE STUDY

FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

**VOLUME 1 of 1** 



### MUSSELSHELL COUNTY, MONTANA

AND INCORPORATED AREAS

COMMUNITY NAME	COMMUNITY NUMBER
MUSSELSHELL COUNTY, UNINCORPORATED AREAS	300174
MELSTONE, TOWN OF*	300099
ROUNDUP, CITY OF	300050

<sup>\*</sup> No Special Flood Hazard Areas Identified



**EFFECTIVE:** 

**MONTH XX, 20XX** 

PRELIMINARY 03/22/2018

FLOOD INSURANCE STUDY NUMBER 30065CV000A

Version Number 2.3.3.0

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Flood Profiles

Musselshell River

Panel
01-95 F

### **Published Separately**

Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM)

### FLOOD INSURANCE STUDY REPORT MUSSELSHELL COUNTY, MONTANA

#### **SECTION 1.0 – INTRODUCTION**

#### 1.1 The National Flood Insurance Program

The National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) is a voluntary Federal program that enables property owners in participating communities to purchase insurance protection against losses from flooding. This insurance is designed to provide an alternative to disaster assistance to meet the escalating costs of repairing damage to buildings and their contents caused by floods.

For decades, the national response to flood disasters was generally limited to constructing flood-control works such as dams, levees, sea-walls, and the like, and providing disaster relief to flood victims. This approach did not reduce losses nor did it discourage unwise development. In some instances, it may have actually encouraged additional development. To compound the problem, the public generally could not buy flood coverage from insurance companies, and building techniques to reduce flood damage were often overlooked.

In the face of mounting flood losses and escalating costs of disaster relief to the general taxpayers, the U.S. Congress created the NFIP. The intent was to reduce future flood damage through community floodplain management ordinances, and provide protection for property owners against potential losses through an insurance mechanism that requires a premium to be paid for the protection.

The U.S. Congress established the NFIP on August 1, 1968, with the passage of the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968. The NFIP was broadened and modified with the passage of the Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973 and other legislative measures. It was further modified by the National Flood Insurance Reform Act of 1994 and the Flood Insurance Reform Act of 2004. The NFIP is administered by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), which is a component of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS).

Participation in the NFIP is based on an agreement between local communities and the Federal Government. If a community adopts and enforces floodplain management regulations to reduce future flood risks to new construction and substantially improved structures in Special Flood Hazard Areas (SFHAs), the Federal Government will make flood insurance available within the community as a financial protection against flood losses. The community's floodplain management regulations must meet or exceed criteria established in accordance with Title 44 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 60, *Criteria for Land Management and Use*.

SFHAs are delineated on the community's Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs). Under the NFIP, buildings that were built before the flood hazard was identified on the community's FIRMs are generally referred to as "Pre-FIRM" buildings. When the NFIP was created, the U.S. Congress recognized that insurance for Pre-FIRM buildings would be prohibitively expensive if the premiums were not subsidized by the Federal

Government. Congress also recognized that most of these floodprone buildings were built by individuals who did not have sufficient knowledge of the flood hazard to make informed decisions. The NFIP requires that full actuarial rates reflecting the complete flood risk be charged on all buildings constructed or substantially improved on or after the effective date of the initial FIRM for the community or after December 31, 1974, whichever is later. These buildings are generally referred to as "Post-FIRM" buildings.

#### 1.2 Purpose of this Flood Insurance Study Report

This Flood Insurance Study (FIS) Report revises and updates information on the existence and severity of flood hazards for the study area. The studies described in this report developed flood hazard data that will be used to establish actuarial flood insurance rates and to assist communities in efforts to implement sound floodplain management.

In some states or communities, floodplain management criteria or regulations may exist that are more restrictive than the minimum Federal requirements. Contact your State NFIP Coordinator to ensure that any higher State standards are included in the community's regulations.

#### 1.3 Jurisdictions Included in the Flood Insurance Study Project

This FIS Report covers the entire geographic area of Musselshell County, Montana.

The jurisdictions that are included in this project area, along with the Community Identification Number (CID) for each community and the United States Geological Survey (USGS) 8-digit Hydrologic Unit Code (HUC-8) sub-basins affecting each, are shown in Table 1. The FIRM panel numbers that affect each community are listed. If the flood hazard data for the community is not included in this FIS Report, the location of that data is identified.

Jurisdictions that have no identified SFHAs as of the effective date of this study are indicated in the table. Changed conditions in these communities (such as urbanization or annexation) or the availability of new scientific data about flood hazards could make it necessary to determine SFHAs in these jurisdictions in the future.

**Table 1: Listing of NFIP Jurisdictions** 

		HUC-8		If Not Included,
		Sub-	Located on FIRM	Location of Flood
Community	CID	Basin(s)	Panel(s)	Hazard Data
			30065C0025C <sup>1</sup>	
			30065C0050C <sup>1</sup>	
			30065C0075C <sup>1</sup>	
			30065C0100C <sup>1</sup>	
			30065C0125C <sup>1</sup>	
			30065C0150C <sup>1</sup>	
			30065C0175C <sup>1</sup>	
			30065C0190C	
			30065C0200C <sup>1</sup>	
			30065C0225C <sup>1</sup>	
			30065C0250C <sup>1</sup>	
			30065C0275C <sup>1</sup>	
			30065C0300C <sup>1</sup>	
			30065C0325C <sup>1</sup>	
			30065C0350C <sup>1</sup>	
			30065C0375C <sup>1</sup>	
			30065C0395C	
			30065C0400C <sup>1</sup>	
Muse colob all County		10100001	30065C0425C	
Musselshell County, Unincorporated Areas	300174	10040201	30065C0450C <sup>1</sup>	
Crimodiporated Areas			30065C0455C	
		10040202 10070007	30065C0460C	
		10070007	30065C0465C	
			30065C0470C	
			30065C0500C <sup>1</sup>	
			30065C0525C <sup>1</sup>	
			30065C0550C <sup>1</sup>	
			30065C0575C <sup>1</sup>	
			30065C0595C	
			30065C0600C <sup>1</sup>	
			30065C0625C <sup>1</sup>	
			30065C0645C	
			30065C0650C <sup>1</sup>	
			30065C0655C <sup>1</sup>	
			30065C0660C	
			30065C0665C	
			30065C0670C	
			30065C0690C	
			30065C0695C	

Table 1: Listing of NFIP Jurisdictions, continued

		HUC-8	Leave to Leave FIDM	If Not Included,
Community	CID	Sub- Basin(s)	Located on FIRM Panel(s)	Location of Flood Hazard Data
	0.2	200(0)	30065C0700C	. 1020. 0 2 010
			30065C0705C	
			30065C0710C	
			30065C0715C	
			30065C0720C	
			30065C0730C	
			30065C0735C	
			30065C0740C	
			30065C0745C	
			30065C0775C <sup>1</sup>	
			30065C0800C <sup>1</sup>	
			30065C0819C	
			30065C0820C <sup>1</sup>	
			30065C0825C <sup>1</sup>	
			30065C0829C	
			30065C0830C <sup>1</sup>	
			30065C0833C	
	300174	10100001	30065C0834C	
Musselshell County,		10040201	30065C0835C 30065C0836C	
Unincorporated Areas	300174	10040202	30065C0837C	
		10070007	30065C0838C	
			30065C0839C	
			30065C0841C	
			30065C0842C <sup>1</sup>	
			30065C0845C	
			30065C0851C	
			30065C0852C	
			30065C0853C	
			30065C0854C	
			30065C0856C	
			30065C0857C	
			30065C0858C	
			30065C0859C	
			30065C0865C <sup>1</sup>	
			30065C0870C	
			30065C0880C	
			30065C0885C	
			30065C0900C <sup>1</sup>	

Table 1: Listing of NFIP Jurisdictions, continued

Community	CID	HUC-8 Sub- Basin(s)	Located on FIRM Panel(s)	If Not Included, Location of Flood Hazard Data
Musselshell County, Unincorporated Areas	300174	10100001 10040201 10040202 10070007	30065C0925C 30065C0925C 30065C0950C <sup>1</sup> 30065C1000C <sup>1</sup> 30065C1005C <sup>1</sup> 30065C1010C 30065C1015C <sup>1</sup> 30065C1020C 30065C1030C 30065C1050C <sup>1</sup> 30065C1055C <sup>1</sup> 30065C1050C <sup>1</sup> 30065C1150C <sup>1</sup> 30065C1250C <sup>1</sup> 30065C1250C <sup>1</sup> 30065C1250C <sup>1</sup> 30065C1250C <sup>1</sup> 30065C1250C <sup>1</sup> 30065C1300C <sup>1</sup> 30065C1300C <sup>1</sup>	
Melstone, Town of <sup>2</sup>	300099	10040202	30065C0710C 30065C0730C	
Roundup, City of	300050	10040202	30065C0833C 30065C0834C	

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Panel Not Printed

#### 1.4 Considerations for using this Flood Insurance Study Report

The NFIP encourages State and local governments to implement sound floodplain management programs. To assist in this endeavor, each FIS Report provides floodplain data, which may include a combination of the following: 10-, 4-, 2-, 1-, and 0.2-percent annual chance flood elevations (the 1% annual chance flood elevation is also referred to as the Base Flood Elevation (BFE)); delineations of the 1% annual chance and 0.2%

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> No Special Flood Hazard Areas Identified

annual chance floodplains; and 1% annual chance floodway. This information is presented on the FIRM and/or in many components of the FIS Report, including Flood Profiles, Floodway Data tables, Summary of Non-Coastal Stillwater Elevations tables, and Coastal Transect Parameters tables (not all components may be provided for a specific FIS).

This section presents important considerations for using the information contained in this FIS Report and the FIRM, including changes in format and content. Figures 1, 2, and 3 present information that applies to using the FIRM with the FIS Report.

 Part or all of this FIS Report may be revised and republished at any time. In addition, part of this FIS Report may be revised by a Letter of Map Revision (LOMR), which does not involve republication or redistribution of the FIS Report. Refer to Section 6.5 of this FIS Report for information about the process to revise the FIS Report and/or FIRM.

It is, therefore, the responsibility of the user to consult with community officials by contacting the community repository to obtain the most current FIS Report components. Communities participating in the NFIP have established repositories of flood hazard data for floodplain management and flood insurance purposes. Community map repository addresses are provided in Table 31, "Map Repositories," within this FIS Report.

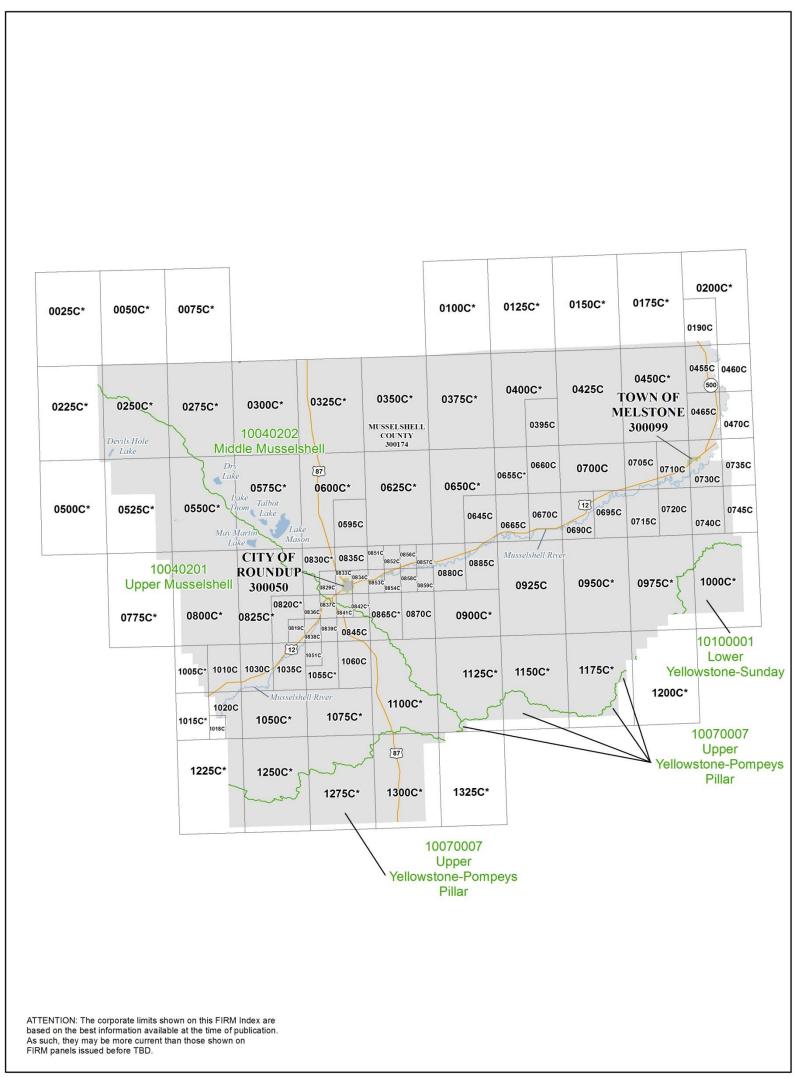
 New FIS Reports are frequently developed for multiple communities, such as entire counties. A countywide FIS Report incorporates previous FIS Reports for individual communities and the unincorporated area of the county (if not jurisdictional) into a single document and supersedes those documents for the purposes of the NFIP.

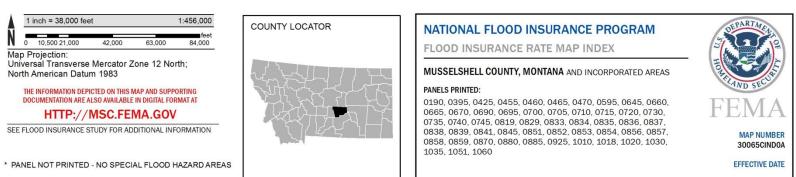
The initial Countywide FIS Report for Musselshell County became effective on **to be determined**. Refer to Table 28 for information about subsequent revisions to the FIRMs.

 FEMA has developed a *Guide to Flood Maps* (FEMA 258) and online tutorials to assist users in accessing the information contained on the FIRM. These include how to read panels and step-by-step instructions to obtain specific information. To obtain this guide and other assistance in using the FIRM, visit the FEMA Web site at www.fema.gov/online-tutorials.

The FIRM Index in Figure 1 shows the overall FIRM panel layout within Musselshell County, and also displays the panel number and effective date for each FIRM panel in the county. Other information shown on the FIRM Index includes community boundaries, flooding sources, and USGS HUC-8 codes.

Figure 1: FIRM Index





Each FIRM panel may contain specific notes to the user that provide additional information regarding the flood hazard data shown on that map. However, the FIRM panel does not contain enough space to show all the notes that may be relevant in helping to better understand the information on the panel. Figure 2 contains the full list of these notes.

Figure 2: FIRM Notes to Users

### **NOTES TO USERS**

For information and questions about this map, available products associated with this FIRM including historic versions of this FIRM, how to order products, or the National Flood Insurance Program in general, please call the FEMA Map Information eXchange at 1-877-FEMA-MAP (1-877-336-2627) or visit the FEMA Flood Map Service Center website at <a href="masc.fema.gov">msc.fema.gov</a>. Available products may include previously issued Letters of Map Change, a Flood Insurance Study Report, and/or digital versions of this map. Many of these products can be ordered or obtained directly from the website. Users may determine the current map date for each FIRM panel by visiting the FEMA Flood Map Service Center website or by calling the FEMA Map Information eXchange.

Communities annexing land on adjacent FIRM panels must obtain a current copy of the adjacent panel as well as the current FIRM Index. These may be ordered directly from the Flood Map Service Center at the number listed above.

For community and countywide map dates, refer to Table 28 in this FIS Report.

To determine if flood insurance is available in the community, contact your insurance agent or call the National Flood Insurance Program at 1-800-638-6620.

<u>PRELIMINARY FIS REPORT</u>: FEMA maintains information about map features, such as street locations and names, in or near designated flood hazard areas. Requests to revise information in or near designated flood hazard areas may be provided to FEMA during the community review period, at the final Consultation Coordination Officer's meeting, or during the statutory 90-day appeal period. Approved requests for changes will be shown on the final printed FIRM.

The map is for use in administering the NFIP. It may not identify all areas subject to flooding, particularly from local drainage sources of small size. Consult the community map repository to find updated or additional flood hazard information.

BASE FLOOD ELEVATIONS: For more detailed information in areas where Base Flood Elevations (BFEs) and/or floodways have been determined, consult the Flood Profiles and Floodway Data and/or Summary of Non-Coastal Stillwater Elevations tables within this FIS Report. Use the flood elevation data within the FIS Report in conjunction with the FIRM for construction and/or floodplain management.

<u>FLOODWAY INFORMATION</u>: Boundaries of the floodways were computed at cross sections and interpolated between cross sections. The floodways were based on hydraulic considerations with regard to requirements of the National Flood Insurance Program. Floodway widths and other pertinent floodway data are provided in the FIS Report for this jurisdiction.

#### Figure 2. FIRM Notes to Users

FLOOD CONTROL STRUCTURE INFORMATION: Certain areas not in Special Flood Hazard Areas may be protected by flood control structures. Refer to Section 4.3 "Non-Levee Flood Protection Measures" of this FIS Report for information on flood control structures for this jurisdiction.

<u>PROJECTION INFORMATION</u>: The projection used in the preparation of the map was Universal Transverse Mercator (UTM) Zone 12N. The horizontal datum was the North American Datum of 1983 NAD83, GRS1980 spheroid. Differences in datum, spheroid, projection or State Plane zones used in the production of FIRMs for adjacent jurisdictions may result in slight positional differences in map features across jurisdiction boundaries. These differences do not affect the accuracy of the FIRM.

<u>ELEVATION DATUM</u>: Flood elevations on the FIRM are referenced to the North American Vertical Datum of 1988. These flood elevations must be compared to structure and ground elevations referenced to the same vertical datum. For information regarding conversion between the National Geodetic Vertical Datum of 1929 and the North American Vertical Datum of 1988, visit the National Geodetic Survey website at <a href="https://www.ngs.noaa.gov">www.ngs.noaa.gov</a>.

Local vertical monuments may have been used to create the map. To obtain current monument information, please contact the appropriate local community listed in Table 31 of this FIS Report.

<u>BASE MAP INFORMATION</u>: Base map information shown on this FIRM was derived from digital orthophotography collected by the U.S. Department of Agriculture Farm Service Agency. This imagery was flown in 2013 and was produced with 1.0-meter ground sample distance. Base map information shown on this FIRM was provided in digital format by Montana State Library 2015. For information about base maps, refer to Section 6.2 "Base Map" in the FIS Report.

The map reflects more detailed and up-to-date stream channel configurations than those shown on the previous FIRM for this jurisdiction. The floodplains and floodways that were transferred from the previous FIRM may have been adjusted to conform to these new stream channel configurations. As a result, the Flood Profiles and Floodway Data tables may reflect stream channel distances that differ from what is shown on the map.

Corporate limits shown on the map are based on the best data available at the time of publication. Because changes due to annexations or de-annexations may have occurred after the map was published, map users should contact appropriate community officials to verify current corporate limit locations.

#### Figure 2. FIRM Notes to Users

#### NOTES FOR FIRM INDEX

<u>REVISIONS TO INDEX</u>: As new studies are performed and FIRM panels are updated within Musselshell County, Montana, corresponding revisions to the FIRM Index will be incorporated within the FIS Report to reflect the effective dates of those panels. Please refer to Table 28 of this FIS Report to determine the most recent FIRM revision date for each community. The most recent FIRM panel effective date will correspond to the most recent index date.

#### SPECIAL NOTES FOR SPECIFIC FIRM PANELS

This Notes to Users section was created specifically for Musselshell County, Montana, effective Month XX, 20XX.

<u>FLOOD RISK REPORT</u>: A Flood Risk Report (FRR) may be available for many of the flooding sources and communities referenced in this FIS Report. The FRR is provided to increase public awareness of flood risk by helping communities identify the areas within their jurisdictions that have the greatest risks. Although non-regulatory, the information provided within the FRR can assist communities in assessing and evaluating mitigation opportunities to reduce these risks. It can also be used by communities developing or updating flood risk mitigation plans. These plans allow communities to identify and evaluate opportunities to reduce potential loss of life and property. However, the FRR is not intended to be the final authoritative source of all flood risk data for a project area; rather, it should be used with other data sources to paint a comprehensive picture of flood risk.

Each FIRM panel contains an abbreviated legend for the features shown on the maps. However, the FIRM panel does not contain enough space to show the legend for all map features. Figure 3 shows the full legend of all map features. Note that not all of these features may appear on the FIRM panels in Musselshell County.

#### Figure 3: Map Legend for FIRM

SPECIAL FLOOD HAZARD AREAS: The 1% annual chance flood, also known as the base flood or 100-year flood, has a 1% chance of happening or being exceeded each year. Special Flood Hazard Areas are subject to flooding by the 1% annual chance flood. The Base Flood Elevation is the water surface elevation of the 1% annual chance flood. The floodway is the channel of a stream plus any adjacent floodplain areas that must be kept free of encroachment so that the 1% annual chance flood can be carried without substantial increases in flood heights. See note for specific types. If the floodway is too narrow to be shown, a note is shown.

Special Flood Hazard Areas subject to inundation by the 1% annual chance flood (Zones A, AE, AH, AO, AR, A99, V and VE)

- Zone A The flood insurance rate zone that corresponds to the 1% annual chance floodplains. No base (1% annual chance) flood elevations (BFEs) or depths are shown within this zone.
- Zone AE The flood insurance rate zone that corresponds to the 1% annual chance floodplains. Base flood elevations derived from the hydraulic analyses are shown within this zone.
- Zone AH The flood insurance rate zone that corresponds to the areas of 1% annual chance shallow flooding (usually areas of ponding) where average depths are between 1 and 3 feet. Whole-foot BFEs derived from the hydraulic analyses are shown at selected intervals within this zone.
- Zone AO The flood insurance rate zone that corresponds to the areas of 1% annual chance shallow flooding (usually sheet flow on sloping terrain) where average depths are between 1 and 3 feet. Average whole-foot depths derived from the hydraulic analyses are shown within this zone.
- Zone AR The flood insurance rate zone that corresponds to areas that were formerly protected from the 1% annual chance flood by a flood control system that was subsequently decertified. Zone AR indicates that the former flood control system is being restored to provide protection from the 1% annual chance or greater flood.
- Zone A99 The flood insurance rate zone that corresponds to areas of the 1% annual chance floodplain that will be protected by a Federal flood protection system where construction has reached specified statutory milestones. No base flood elevations or flood depths are shown within this zone.
  - Zone V The flood insurance rate zone that corresponds to the 1% annual chance coastal floodplains that have additional hazards associated with storm waves. Base flood elevations are not shown within this zone.
- Zone VE Zone VE is the flood insurance rate zone that corresponds to the 1% annual chance coastal floodplains that have additional hazards associated with storm waves. Base flood elevations derived from the coastal analyses are shown within this zone as static whole-foot elevations that apply throughout the zone.

Figure 3: Map Legend for FIRM

Regulatory Floodway determined in Zone AE.
DD HAZARD
Shaded Zone X: Areas of 0.2% annual chance flood hazards and areas of 1% annual chance flood hazards with average depths of less than 1 foot or with drainage areas less than 1 square mile.
Future Conditions 1% Annual Chance Flood Hazard – Zone X: The flood insurance rate zone that corresponds to the 1% annual chance floodplains that are determined based on future-conditions hydrology. No base flood elevations or flood depths are shown within this zone.
Area with Reduced Flood Risk due to Levee: Areas where an accredited levee, dike, or other flood control structure has reduced the flood risk from the 1% annual chance flood.
Area with Flood Risk due to Levee: Areas where a non-accredited levee, dike, or other flood control structure is shown as providing protection to less than the 1% annual chance flood.
Zone D (Areas of Undetermined Flood Hazard): The flood insurance rate zone that corresponds to unstudied areas where flood hazards are undetermined, but possible.
Unshaded Zone X: Areas of minimal flood hazard.
THER BOUNDARY LINES
Flood Zone Boundary (white line on ortho-photography-based mapping; gray line on vector-based mapping)
Limit of Study
Jurisdiction Boundary
Limit of Moderate Wave Action (LiMWA): Indicates the inland limit of the area affected by waves greater than 1.5 feet
S
Channel, Culvert, Aqueduct, or Storm Sewer
Dam, Jetty, Weir

Figure 3: Map Legend for FIRM

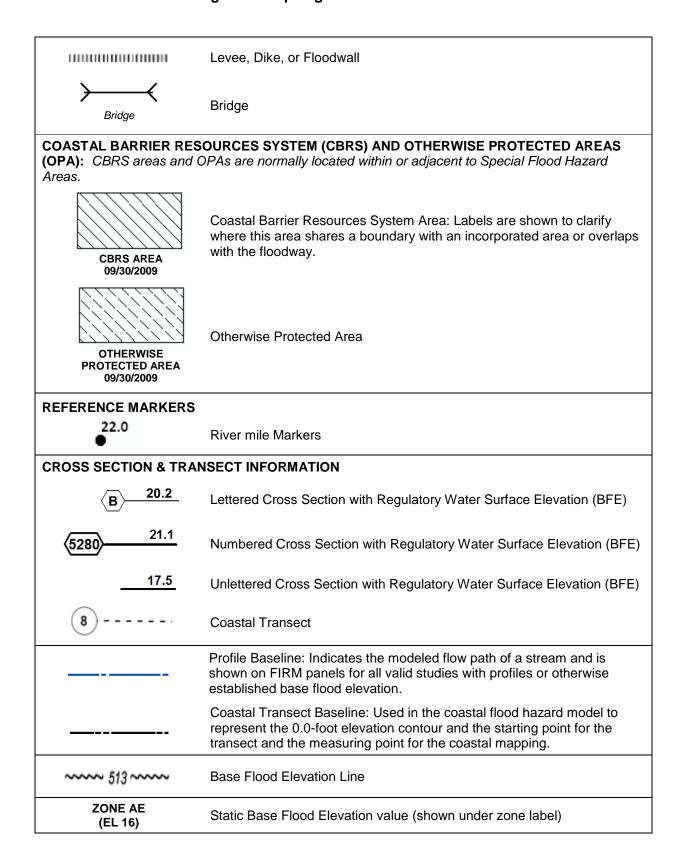


Figure 3: Map Legend for FIRM

ZONE AO (DEPTH 2)	Zone designation with Depth
ZONE AO (DEPTH 2) (VEL 15 FPS)	Zone designation with Depth and Velocity
BASE MAP FEATURES	
Missouri Creek	River, Stream or Other Hydrographic Feature
234	Interstate Highway
234	U.S. Highway
234	State Highway
234	County Highway
MAPLE LANE	Street, Road, Avenue Name, or Private Drive if shown on Flood Profile
RAILROAD	Railroad
	Horizontal Reference Grid Line
	Horizontal Reference Grid Ticks
+	Secondary Grid Crosshairs
Land Grant	Name of Land Grant
7	Section Number
R. 43 W. T. 22 N.	Range, Township Number
<sup>42</sup> 76 <sup>000m</sup> E	Horizontal Reference Grid Coordinates (UTM)
365000 FT	Horizontal Reference Grid Coordinates (State Plane)
80° 16' 52.5"	Corner Coordinates (Latitude, Longitude)

#### **SECTION 2.0 – FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT APPLICATIONS**

#### 2.1 Floodplain Boundaries

To provide a national standard without regional discrimination, the 1% annual chance (100-year) flood has been adopted by FEMA as the base flood for floodplain management purposes. The 0.2% annual chance (500-year) flood is employed to indicate additional areas of flood hazard in the community.

Each flooding source included in the project scope has been studied and mapped using professional engineering and mapping methodologies that were agreed upon by FEMA and Musselshell County as appropriate to the risk level. Flood risk is evaluated based on factors such as known flood hazards and projected impact on the built environment. Engineering analyses were performed for each studied flooding source to calculate its 1% annual chance flood elevations; elevations corresponding to other floods (e.g. 10-, 4-, 2-, 0.2-percent annual chance, etc.) may have also been computed for certain flooding sources. Engineering models and methods are described in detail in Section 5.0 of this FIS Report. The modeled elevations at cross sections were used to delineate the floodplain boundaries on the FIRM; between cross sections, the boundaries were interpolated using elevation data from various sources. More information on specific mapping methods is provided in Section 6.0 of this FIS Report.

Depending on the accuracy of available topographic data (Table 23), study methodologies employed (Section 5.0), and flood risk, certain flooding sources may be mapped to show both the 1% and 0.2% annual chance floodplain boundaries, regulatory water surface elevations (BFEs), and/or a regulatory floodway. Similarly, other flooding sources may be mapped to show only the 1% annual chance floodplain boundary on the FIRM, without published water surface elevations. In cases where the 1% and 0.2% annual chance floodplain boundaries are close together, only the 1% annual chance floodplain boundary is shown on the FIRM. Figure 3, "Map Legend for FIRM", describes the flood zones that are used on the FIRMs to account for the varying levels of flood risk that exist along flooding sources within the project area. Table 2 and Table 3 indicate the flood zone designations for each flooding source and each community within Musselshell County, Montana.

Table 2, "Flooding Sources Included in this FIS Report," lists each flooding source, including its study limits, affected communities, mapped zone on the FIRM, and the completion date of its engineering analysis from which the flood elevations on the FIRM and in the FIS Report were derived. Descriptions and dates for the latest hydrologic and hydraulic analyses of the flooding sources are shown in Table 13. Floodplain boundaries for these flooding sources are shown on the FIRM (published separately) using the symbology described in Figure 3. On the map, the 1% annual chance floodplain corresponds to the SFHAs. The 0.2% annual chance floodplain shows areas that, although out of the regulatory floodplain, are still subject to flood hazards.

Small areas within the floodplain boundaries may lie above the flood elevations but cannot be shown due to limitations of the map scale and/or lack of detailed topographic

data. The procedures to remove these areas from the SFHA are described in Section 6.5 of this FIS Report.

Table 2: Flooding Sources Included in this FIS Report

Flooding Source	Community	Downstream Limit	Upstream Limit	HUC-8 Sub- Basin(s)	Length (mi) (streams or coastlines)	Area (mi <sup>2</sup> ) (estuaries or ponding)	Floodway (Y/N)	Zone shown on FIRM	Date of Analysis
Musselshell River	Musselshell County	Musselshell-	Approximately 1.4 miles east of Main Street and US Highway 12 intersection in the Town of Melsone	10040202 10040201	22.7	N/A	N	AE	2016
Musselshell River	Musselshell County	Highway 12	Approximately 4.9 miles upstream of Willow Creek	10040202 10040201	63.4	N/A	N	AE	2016
Musselshell River	Musselshell County	Approximately 4.9 miles upstream of Willow Creek	Approximately 0.52 miles upstream of Johnson Road and US Highway 12 intersection	10040202 10040201	19.7	N/A	N	AE	2016
Musselshell River	Musselshell County	Approximately 0.52 miles upstream of Johnson Road and US Highway 12 intersection	Musselshell-Golden Valley County Line	10040202 10040201	10.2	N/A	Y	AE	2016

#### 2.2 Floodways

Encroachment on floodplains, such as structures and fill, reduces flood-carrying capacity, increases flood heights and velocities, and increases flood hazards in areas beyond the encroachment itself. One aspect of floodplain management involves balancing the economic gain from floodplain development against the resulting increase in flood hazard.

For purposes of the NFIP, a floodway is used as a tool to assist local communities in balancing floodplain development against increasing flood hazard. With this approach, the area of the 1% annual chance floodplain on a river is divided into a floodway and a floodway fringe based on hydraulic modeling. The floodway is the channel of a stream, plus any adjacent floodplain areas, that must be kept free of encroachment in order to carry the 1% annual chance flood. The floodway fringe is the area between the floodway and the 1% annual chance floodplain boundaries where encroachment is permitted. The floodway must be wide enough so that the floodway fringe could be completely obstructed without increasing the water surface elevation of the 1% annual chance flood more than 1 foot at any point. Typical relationships between the floodway and the floodway fringe and their significance to floodplain development are shown in Figure 4.

To participate in the NFIP, Federal regulations require communities to limit increases caused by encroachment to 1.0 foot, provided that hazardous velocities are not produced. Regulations for Montana require communities in Musselshell County to limit increases caused by encroachment to 0.5 foot and several communities have adopted additional restrictions. The floodways in this project are presented to local agencies as minimum standards that can be adopted directly or that can be used as a basis for additional floodway projects.

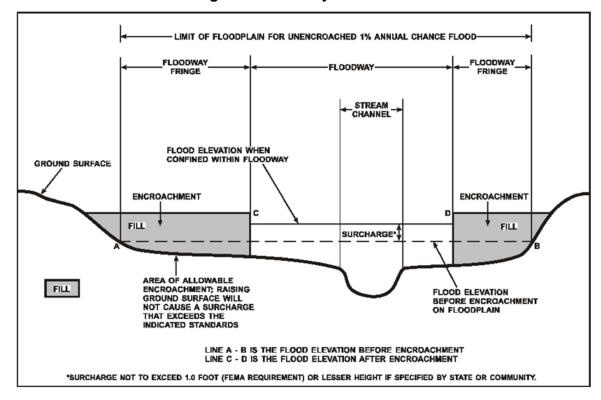


Figure 4: Floodway Schematic

Floodway widths presented in this FIS Report and on the FIRM were computed at cross sections. Between cross sections, the floodway boundaries were interpolated. For certain stream segments, floodways were adjusted so that the amount of floodwaters conveyed on each side of the floodplain would be reduced equally. The results of the floodway computations have been tabulated for selected cross sections and are shown in Table 24, "Floodway Data."

In Montana, the designated floodway is developed using a 0.5-foot surcharge instead of the Federal maximum of 1.0 foot (MDNRC, 2014). These criteria take precendence over the minimum Federal criteria for purposes of regulating development in the floodplain, as set for in the Code of Federal Regulations, 24 CFR, 1910 (d). The floodways computed for this study are based on a maximum increase of 0.5 foot.

All floodways that were developed for this Flood Risk Project are shown on the FIRM using the symbology described in Figure 3. In cases where the floodway and 1% annual chance floodplain boundaries are either close together or collinear, only the floodway boundary has been shown on the FIRM. For information about the delineation of floodways on the FIRM, refer to Section 6.3.

#### 2.3 Base Flood Elevations

The hydraulic characteristics of flooding sources were analyzed to provide estimates of the elevations of floods of the selected recurrence intervals. The Base Flood Elevation (BFE) is the elevation of the 1% annual chance flood. These BFEs are most commonly rounded to the whole foot, as shown on the FIRM, but in certain circumstances or

locations they may be rounded to 0.1 foot. Cross section lines shown on the FIRM may also be labeled with the BFE rounded to 0.1 foot. Whole-foot BFEs derived from engineering analyses that apply to coastal areas, areas of ponding, or other static areas with little elevation change may also be shown at selected intervals on the FIRM.

Cross sections with BFEs shown on the FIRM correspond to the cross sections shown in the Floodway Data table and Flood Profiles in this FIS Report. BFEs are primarily intended for flood insurance rating purposes. For construction and/or floodplain management purposes, users are cautioned to use the flood elevation data presented in this FIS Report in conjunction with the data shown on the FIRM.

#### 2.4 Non-Encroachment Zones

This section is not applicable to this Flood Risk Project.

#### 2.5 Coastal Flood Hazard Areas

This section is not applicable to this Flood Risk Project.

#### 2.5.1 Water Elevations and the Effects of Waves

This section is not applicable to this Flood Risk Project.

Figure 5: Wave Runup Transect Schematic [Not Applicable to this Flood Risk Project]

#### 2.5.2 Floodplain Boundaries and BFEs for Coastal Areas

This section is not applicable to this Flood Risk Project.

#### 2.5.3 Coastal High Hazard Areas

This section is not applicable to this Flood Risk Project.

Figure 6: Coastal Transect Schematic
[Not Applicable to this Flood Risk Project]

#### 2.5.4 Limit of Moderate Wave Action

This section is not applicable to this Flood Risk Project.

#### **SECTION 3.0 – INSURANCE APPLICATIONS**

#### 3.1 National Flood Insurance Program Insurance Zones

For flood insurance applications, the FIRM designates flood insurance rate zones as described in Figure 3, "Map Legend for FIRM." Flood insurance zone designations are assigned to flooding sources based on the results of the hydraulic or coastal analyses.

Insurance agents use the zones shown on the FIRM and depths and base flood elevations in this FIS Report in conjunction with information on structures and their contents to assign premium rates for flood insurance policies.

The 1% annual chance floodplain boundary corresponds to the boundary of the areas of special flood hazards (e.g. Zones A, AE, V, VE, etc.), and the 0.2% annual chance floodplain boundary corresponds to the boundary of areas of additional flood hazards.

Table 3 lists the flood insurance zones in Musselshell County.

**Table 3: Flood Zone Designations by Community** 

Community	Flood Zone(s)
Musselshell County, Unincorporated Areas	A, AE, X
Melstone, Town of	X
Roundup, City of	AE, X

#### 3.2 Coastal Barrier Resources System

This section is not applicable to this Flood Risk Project.

Table 4: Coastal Barrier Resources System Information
[Not Applicable to this Flood Risk Project]

#### **SECTION 4.0 – AREA STUDIED**

#### 4.1 Basin Description

Table 5 contains a description of the characteristics of the HUC-8 sub-basins within which each community falls. The table includes the main flooding sources within each basin, a brief description of the basin, and its drainage area.

**Table 5: Basin Characteristics** 

HUC-8 Sub- Basin Name	HUC-8 Sub-Basin Number	Primary Flooding Source	Description of Affected Area	Drainage Area (square miles)
Upper Musselshell	10040201	Musselshell River	Watershed encompasses ten counties including about a third of western Musselshell County.	4,011
Middle Musselshell	10040202	Musselshell River	Watershed encompasses seven counties including about two-thirds of Musselshell County	1,925

HUC-8 Sub- Basin Name	HUC-8 Sub-Basin Number	Primary Flooding Source	Description of Affected Area	Drainage Area (square miles)
Upper Yellowstone- Pompeys Pillar	10070007	Yellowstone River	Watershed encompasses six counties including the southern fringe of Mussellshell County.	2,006
Lower Yellowstone- Sunday	10100001	Yellowstone River	Watershed encompasses eight counties including the southeastern fringe of Mussellshell County.	4,799

#### 4.2 Principal Flood Problems

Table 6 contains a description of the principal flood problems that have been noted for Musselshell County by flooding source.

**Table 6: Principal Flood Problems** 

Flooding Source	Description of Flood Problems				
Musselshell River	Most flooding is from spring snowmelt and runoff from intense rainfall events where the river overtops its banks. The maximum flood of record occurred in May 2011 as a result of rapid snowmelt. A peak discharge of 16,200 cubic feet per second (cfs) was recorded on May 27, 1997 at U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) gage 06127500 near Musselshell, Montanta.				

Table 7 contains information about historic flood elevations in the communities within Musselshell County.

# Table 7: Historic Flooding Elevations [Not Applicable to this Flood Risk Project]

#### 4.3 Non-Levee Flood Protection Measures

Table 8 contains information about non-levee flood protection measures within Musselshell County such as dams, jetties, and or dikes. Levees are addressed in Section 4.4 of this FIS report.

# Table 8: Non-Levee Flood Protection Measures [Not Applicable to this Flood Risk Project]

#### 4.4 Levees

This section is not applicable to this Flood Risk Project.

Table 9: Levees
[Not Applicable to this Flood Risk Project]

#### **SECTION 5.0 – ENGINEERING METHODS**

For the flooding sources in the community, standard hydrologic and hydraulic study methods were used to determine the flood hazard data required for this study. Flood events of a magnitude that are expected to be equaled or exceeded at least once on the average during any 10-, 25-, 50-, 100-, or 500-year period (recurrence interval) have been selected as having special significance for floodplain management and for flood insurance rates. These events, commonly termed the 10-, 25-, 50-, 100-, and 500-year floods, have a 10-, 4-, 2-, 1-, and 0.2% annual chance, respectively, of being equaled or exceeded during any year.

Although the recurrence interval represents the long-term, average period between floods of a specific magnitude, rare floods could occur at short intervals or even within the same year. The risk of experiencing a rare flood increases when periods greater than 1 year are considered. For example, the risk of having a flood that equals or exceeds the 100-year flood (1-percent chance of annual exceedance) during the term of a 30-year mortgage is approximately 26 percent (about 3 in 10); for any 90-year period, the risk increases to approximately 60 percent (6 in 10). The analyses reported herein reflect flooding potentials based on conditions existing in the community at the time of completion of this study. Maps and flood elevations will be amended periodically to reflect future changes.

The engineering analyses described here incorporate the results of previously issued Letters of Map Change (LOMCs) listed in Table 27, "Incorporated Letters of Map Change", which include Letters of Map Revision (LOMRs). For more information about LOMRs, refer to Section 6.5, "FIRM Revisions."

#### 5.1 Hydrologic Analyses

Hydrologic analyses were carried out to establish the peak elevation-frequency relationships for floods of the selected recurrence intervals for each flooding source studied. Hydrologic analyses are typically performed at the watershed level. Depending on factors such as watershed size and shape, land use and urbanization, and natural or man-made storage, various models or methodologies may be applied. A summary of the hydrologic methods applied to develop the discharges used in the hydraulic analyses for each stream is provided in Table 13. Greater detail (including assumptions, analysis, and results) is available in the archived project documentation.

A summary of the discharges is provided in Table 10. Stream gage information is provided in Table 12.

**Table 10: Summary of Discharges** 

				Р	eak Discharge (c	efs)	
Flooding Source	Location	Drainage Area (Square Miles)	10% Annual Chance	4% Annual Chance	2% Annual Chance	1% Annual Chance	0.2% Annual Chance
Musselshell River	River Mile 83.9	5,003	5,744	9,525	13,229	17,810	32,627
Musselshell River	River Mile 93.2	4,958	5,658	9,395	13,062	17,601	32,318
Musselshell River	Horse Creek	4,887	5,525	9,193	12,801	17,277	31,835
Musselshell River	Lost Horse Creek	4,816	5,394	8,993	12,542	16,954	31,354
Musselshell River	Chandler Ditch	4,725	5,225	8,736	12,209	16,538	30,730
Musselshell River	USGS Station 06127500	4,550	4,909	8,252	11,580	15,750	29,540
Musselshell River	Fattig Creek	4,415	4,877	8,152	11,412	15,498	29,055
Musselshell River	Kruegar Spendiff Ditch	4,384	4,869	8,128	11,374	15,440	28,943
Musselshell River	Parrot Creek	4,304	4,850	8,068	11,274	15,290	28,654
Musselshell River	Willow Creek	4,028	4,781	7,855	10,920	14,760	27,635
Musselshell River	N-F Ditch	4,008	4,776	7,839	10,893	14,720	27,558
Musselshell River	USGS Station 06126500	3,998	4,773	7,831	10,880	14,700	27,520
Musselshell River	Horsethief Creek	3,543	4,688	7,591	10,448	13,991	25,685
Musselshell River	Currant Creek	3,308	4,640	7,459	10,210	13,605	24,700
Musselshell River	Goulding Creek	3,233	4,624	7,415	10,132	13,478	24,379
Musselshell River	Dean Creek	3,167	4,610	7,375	10,062	13,364	24,092
Musselshell River	River Mile 195	3,138	4,604	7,358	10,032	13,315	23,969
Musselshell River	Painted Robe Creek	2,973	4,567	7,257	9,852	13,025	23,242

## Figure 7: Frequency Discharge-Drainage Area Curves [Not Applicable to this Flood Risk Project]

## Table 11: Summary of Non-Coastal Stillwater Elevations [Not Applicable to this Flood Risk Project]

**Table 12: Stream Gage Information used to Determine Discharges** 

		Agency		Drainage	Period of Record		
Flooding Source	Gage Identifier	that Maintains Gage	Site Name	Area (Square Miles)	From	То	
Musselshell River	06126500	USGS	Musselshell River near Roundup	3,998	1946	2015	
Musselshell River	06127500	USGS	Musselshell River at Musselshell	4,534	1928	2015	

#### 5.2 Hydraulic Analyses

Analyses of the hydraulic characteristics of flooding from the sources studied were carried out to provide estimates of the elevations of floods of the selected recurrence intervals. Base flood elevations on the FIRM represent the elevations shown on the Flood Profiles and in the Floodway Data tables in the FIS Report. Rounded whole-foot elevations may be shown on the FIRM in coastal areas, areas of ponding, and other areas with static base flood elevations. These whole-foot elevations may not exactly reflect the elevations derived from the hydraulic analyses. Flood elevations shown on the FIRM are primarily intended for flood insurance rating purposes. For construction and/or floodplain management purposes, users are cautioned to use the flood elevation data presented in this FIS Report in conjunction with the data shown on the FIRM. The hydraulic analyses for this FIS were based on unobstructed flow. The flood elevations shown on the profiles are thus considered valid only if hydraulic structures remain unobstructed, operate properly, and do not fail.

For streams for which hydraulic analyses were based on cross sections, locations of selected cross sections are shown on the Flood Profiles (Exhibit 1). For stream segments for which a floodway was computed (Section 6.3), selected cross sections are also listed in Table 24, "Floodway Data."

A summary of the methods used in hydraulic analyses performed for this project is provided in Table 13. Roughness coefficients are provided in Table 14. Roughness coefficients are values representing the frictional resistance water experiences when passing overland or through a channel. They are used in the calculations to determine water surface elevations. Greater detail (including assumptions, analysis, and results) is available in the archived project documentation.

Table 13: Summary of Hydrologic and Hydraulic Analyses

Flooding Source	Study Limits Downstream Limit	Study Limits Upstream Limit	Hydrologic Model or Method Used	Hydraulic Model or Method Used	Date Analyses Completed	Flood Zone on FIRM	Special Considerations
Musselshell River	Musselshell- Petroleum County Line	Approximately 1.4 miles east of Main Street and US Highway 12 intersection in the Town of Melsone	Two site logarithmic interpolation methods with USGS WRIR 03-4308	HEC-RAS, 4.1.0	04/15/2016	AE	
Musselshell River	Approximately 1.4 miles east of Main Street and US Highway 12 intersection in the Town of Melsone	Approximately 4.9 miles upstream of Willow Creek	Two site logarithmic interpolation methods with USGS WRIR 03-4308	HEC-RAS, 4.1.0	04/15/2016	AE	
Musselshell River	Approximately 4.9 miles upstream of Willow Creek	Approximately 0.52 miles upstream of Johnson Road and US Highway 12 intersection	Two site logarithmic interpolation methods with USGS WRIR 03-4308	HEC-RAS, 4.1.0	04/15/2016	AE	
Musselshell River	Approximately 0.52 miles upstream of Johnson Road and US Highway 12 intersection	Musselshell- Golden Valley County Line	Two site logarithmic interpolation methods with USGS WRIR 03-4308	HEC-RAS, 4.1.0	04/15/2016	AE	

**Table 14: Roughness Coefficients** 

Flooding Source	Channel "n"	Overbank "n"		
Musselshell River	0.028 - 0.065	0.020 - 0.100		

#### 5.3 Coastal Analyses

This section is not applicable to this Flood Risk Project.

Table 15: Summary of Coastal Analyses
[Not Applicable to this Flood Risk Project]

#### 5.3.1 Total Stillwater Elevations

This section is not applicable to this Flood Risk Project.

Figure 8: 1% Annual Chance Total Stillwater Elevations for Coastal Areas
[Not Applicable to this Flood Risk Project]

Table 16: Tide Gage Analysis Specifics
[Not Applicable to this Flood Risk Project]

#### **5.3.2 Waves**

This section is not applicable to this Flood Risk Project.

#### 5.3.3 Coastal Erosion

This section is not applicable to this Flood Risk Project.

#### 5.3.4 Wave Hazard Analyses

This section is not applicable to this Flood Risk Project.

Table 17: Coastal Transect Parameters
[Not Applicable to this Flood Risk Project]

Figure 9: Transect Location Map
[Not applicable to this Flood Risk Project]

#### 5.4 Alluvial Fan Analyses

This section is not applicable to this Flood Risk Project.

Table 18: Summary of Alluvial Fan Analyses
[Not Applicable to this Flood Risk Project]

Table 19: Results of Alluvial Fan Analyses [Not Applicable to this Flood Risk Project]

#### **SECTION 6.0 – MAPPING METHODS**

#### 6.1 Vertical and Horizontal Control

All FIS Reports and FIRMs are referenced to a specific vertical datum. The vertical datum provides a starting point against which flood, ground, and structure elevations can be referenced and compared. Until recently, the standard vertical datum used for newly created or revised FIS Reports and FIRMs was the National Geodetic Vertical Datum of 1929 (NGVD29). With the completion of the North American Vertical Datum of 1988 (NAVD88), many FIS Reports and FIRMs are now prepared using NAVD88 as the referenced vertical datum.

Flood elevations shown in this FIS Report and on the FIRMs are referenced to NAVD88. These flood elevations must be compared to structure and ground elevations referenced to the same vertical datum. For information regarding conversion between NGVD29 and NAVD88 or other datum conversion, visit the National Geodetic Survey website at <a href="https://www.ngs.noaa.gov">www.ngs.noaa.gov</a>.

Temporary vertical monuments are often established during the preparation of a flood hazard analysis for the purpose of establishing local vertical control. Although these monuments are not shown on the FIRM, they may be found in the archived project documentation associated with the FIS Report and the FIRMs for this community. Interested individuals may contact FEMA to access these data.

To obtain current elevation, description, and/or location information for benchmarks in the area, please visit the NGS website at <a href="https://www.ngs.noaa.gov">www.ngs.noaa.gov</a>.

No datum conversion locations and values were calculated for Musselshell County.

Table 20: Countywide Vertical Datum Conversion
[Not Applicable to this Flood Risk Project]

Table 21: Stream-Based Vertical Datum Conversion
[Not Applicable to this Flood Risk Project]

#### 6.2 Base Map

The FIRMs and FIS Report for this project have been produced in a digital format. The flood hazard information was converted to a Geographic Information System (GIS) format that meets FEMA's FIRM Database specifications and geographic information standards. This information is provided in a digital format so that it can be incorporated into a local GIS and be accessed more easily by the community. The FIRM Database includes most of the tabular information contained in the FIS Report in such a way that the data can be associated with pertinent spatial features. For example, the information contained in the Floodway Data table and Flood Profiles can be linked to the cross sections that are shown on the FIRMs. Additional information about the FIRM Database and its contents can be found in FEMA's *Guidelines and Standards for Flood Risk* 

Analysis and Mapping, www.fema.gov/guidelines-and-standards-flood-risk-analysis-and-mapping.

Base map information shown on the FIRM was derived from the sources described in Table 22.

**Table 22: Base Map Sources** 

Data Type	Data Provider	Data Date	Data Scale	Data Description
Digital Orthophoto	USDA/FSA – Aerial Photography Field Office	2015	1 foot GSD	Orthoimagery was provided for the county
Political boundaries	Montana State Library	2015		Municipal and county boundaries
Transportation Data	Montana State Library	2015		Roads and highways
Public Land Survey System (PLSS)	State Center for Geographic Information	2015		PLSS boundaries for Musselshell County
Hydrography	Montana State Library	2015		Streams, rivers, and lakes were derived from NHD data

#### 6.3 Floodplain and Floodway Delineation

The FIRM shows tints, screens, and symbols to indicate floodplains and floodways as well as the locations of selected cross sections used in the hydraulic analyses and floodway computations.

For riverine flooding sources, the mapped floodplain boundaries shown on the FIRM have been delineated using the flood elevations determined at each cross section; between cross sections, the boundaries were interpolated using the topographic elevation data described in Table 23.

In cases where the 1% and 0.2% annual chance floodplain boundaries are close together, only the 1% annual chance floodplain boundary has been shown. Small areas within the floodplain boundaries may lie above the flood elevations but cannot be shown due to limitations of the map scale and/or lack of detailed topographic data.

The floodway widths presented in this FIS Report and on the FIRM were computed for certain stream segments on the basis of equal conveyance reduction from each side of the floodplain. Floodway widths were computed at cross sections. Between cross sections, the floodway boundaries were interpolated. Table 2 indicates the flooding sources for which floodways have been determined. The results of the floodway computations for those flooding sources have been tabulated for selected cross sections and are shown in Table 24, "Floodway Data."

Certain flooding sources may have been studied that do not have published BFEs on the FIRMs, or for which there is a need to report the 1% annual chance flood elevations at selected cross sections because a published Flood Profile does not exist in this FIS Report. These streams may have also been studied using methods to determine non-encroachment zones rather than floodways. For these flooding sources, the 1% annual chance floodplain boundaries have been delineated using the flood elevations determined at each cross section; between cross sections, the boundaries were interpolated using the topographic elevation data described in Table 23. All topographic data used for modeling or mapping has been converted as necessary to NAVD88. The 1% annual chance elevations for selected cross sections along these flooding sources, along with their non-encroachment widths, if calculated, are shown in Table 25, "Flood Hazard and Non-Encroachment Data for Selected Streams."

Table 23: Summary of Topographic Elevation Data used in Mapping

		Source for Topographic Elevation Data					
Community	Flooding Source	Description	Vertical Accuracy	Horizontal Accuracy	Citation		
Musselshell County	Musselshell River	Light Detection and Ranging data (LiDAR)	9.25 cm RMSE <sub>z</sub>	3 foot	NRCS/ USACE 2012		

BFEs shown at cross sections on the FIRM represent the 1% annual chance water surface elevations shown on the Flood Profiles and in the Floodway Data tables in the FIS Report.

Table 24: Floodway Data

LOCAT	LOCATION		FLOODWAY			1% ANNUAL CHANCE FLOOD WATER SURFACE ELEVATION (FEET NAVD88)			
CROSS SECTION	DISTANCE <sup>1</sup>	WIDTH ( <b>FEET</b> )	SECTION AREA ( <b>SQ. FEET</b> )	MEAN VELOCITY ( <b>FEET/SEC</b> )	REGULATORY	WITHOUT FLOODWAY	WITH FLOODWAY	INCREASE	
FD FE FF FG FF FJ FW FN FO FP FR FT FU FW FW	334,504 336,093 338,110 340,579 342,400 342,875 344,626 346,090 348,339 351,067 358,503 359,653 360,834 362,883 364,946 367,524 373,040 376,077 378,601 380,814	1,133 713 153 840 814 940 469 171 935 543 779 603 489 167 196 978 705 290 484 850	5,037 2,657 1,262 5,173 4,017 5,658 2,069 1,765 4,701 2,461 3,196 5,424 3,101 1,810 2,303 4,874 2,100 2,208 3,130 5,792	2.9 5.5 11.7 2.9 3.7 2.6 7.1 8.3 3.1 6.0 4.6 3.4 4.7 8.1 6.4 3.0 7.0 6.3 4.5 2.4	3,160.8 3,162.5 3,164.7 3,169.8 3,170.4 3,170.9 3,172.7 3,176.0 3,178.3 3,179.7 3,185.7 3,188.6 3,189.4 3,191.9 3,195.4 3,197.8 3,200.0 3,205.7 3,207.5 3,210.4	3,160.8 3,162.4 3,164.7 3,169.8 3,170.4 3,170.9 3,172.7 3,176.0 3,178.3 3,179.7 3,185.7 3,188.6 3,189.4 3,191.9 3,195.4 3,197.8 3,200.0 3,205.7 3,207.5 3,210.4	3,161.3 3,162.9 3,165.2 3,170.3 3,170.9 3,171.4 3,172.9 3,176.1 3,178.6 3,180.2 3,185.7 3,189.1 3,189.8 3,192.4 3,195.9 3,198.3 3,200.1 3,205.9 3,208.0 3,210.9	0.5 0.4 0.5 0.5 0.5 0.2 0.1 0.3 0.5 0.0 0.5 0.4 0.5 0.5 0.5 0.1 0.5	
FX FY FZ	383,021 385,587 388,054	214 562 552	1,687 3,432 3,322	8.3 4.1 4.1	3,211.5 3,214.8 3,218.2	3,211.5 3,214.8 3,218.2	3,211.6 3,215.2 3,218.6	0.1 0.4 0.4	

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Feet above eastern county line

TAE	FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY	FLOODWAY DATA
BLE	MUSSELSHELL COUNTY, MONTANA	
24	AND INCORPORATED AREAS	FLOODING SOURCE: MUSSELSHELL RIVER

# Table 25: Flood Hazard and Non-Encroachment Data for Selected Streams [Not Applicable to this Flood Risk Project]

#### 6.4 Coastal Flood Hazard Mapping

This section is not applicable to this Flood Risk Project.

### Table 26: Summary of Coastal Transect Mapping Considerations [Not Applicable to this Flood Risk Project]

#### 6.5 FIRM Revisions

This FIS Report and the FIRM are based on the most up-to-date information available to FEMA at the time of its publication; however, flood hazard conditions change over time. Communities or private parties may request flood map revisions at any time. Certain types of requests require submission of supporting data. FEMA may also initiate a revision. Revisions may take several forms, including Letters of Map Amendment (LOMAs), Letters of Map Revision Based on Fill (LOMR-Fs), Letters of Map Revision (LOMRs) (referred to collectively as Letters of Map Change (LOMCs)), Physical Map Revisions (PMRs), and FEMA-contracted restudies. These types of revisions are further described below. Some of these types of revisions do not result in the republishing of the FIS Report. To assure that any user is aware of all revisions, it is advisable to contact the community repository of flood-hazard data (shown in Table 31, "Map Repositories").

#### 6.5.1 Letters of Map Amendment

A LOMA is an official revision by letter to an effective NFIP map. A LOMA results from an administrative process that involves the review of scientific or technical data submitted by the owner or lessee of property who believes the property has incorrectly been included in a designated SFHA. A LOMA amends the currently effective FEMA map and establishes that a specific property is not located in a SFHA. A LOMA cannot be issued for properties located on the PFD (primary frontal dune).

To obtain an application for a LOMA, visit <a href="www.fema.gov/floodplain-management/letter-map-amendment-loma">www.fema.gov/floodplain-management/letter-map-amendment-loma</a> and download the form "MT-1 Application Forms and Instructions for Conditional and Final Letters of Map Amendment and Letters of Map Revision Based on Fill". Visit the "Flood Map-Related Fees" section to determine the cost, if any, of applying for a LOMA.

FEMA offers a tutorial on how to apply for a LOMA. The LOMA Tutorial Series can be accessed at <a href="https://www.fema.gov/online-tutorials">www.fema.gov/online-tutorials</a>.

For more information about how to apply for a LOMA, call the FEMA Map Information eXchange; toll free, at 1-877-FEMA MAP (1-877-336-2627).

#### 6.5.2 Letters of Map Revision Based on Fill

A LOMR-F is an official revision by letter to an effective NFIP map. A LOMR-F states FEMA's determination concerning whether a structure or parcel has been elevated on fill above the base flood elevation and is, therefore, excluded from the SFHA.

Information about obtaining an application for a LOMR-F can be obtained in the same manner as that for a LOMA, by visiting <a href="www.fema.gov/floodplain-management/letter-map-amendment-loma">www.fema.gov/floodplain-management/letter-map-amendment-loma</a> for the "MT-1 Application Forms and Instructions for Conditional and Final Letters of Map Amendment and Letters of Map Revision Based on Fill" or by calling the FEMA Map Information eXchange, toll free, at 1-877-FEMA MAP (1-877-336-2627). Fees for applying for a LOMR-F, if any, are listed in the "Flood Map-Related Fees" section.

A tutorial for LOMR-F is available at www.fema.gov/online-tutorials.

### 6.5.3 Letters of Map Revision

A LOMR is an official revision to the currently effective FEMA map. It is used to change flood zones, floodplain and floodway delineations, flood elevations and planimetric features. All requests for LOMRs should be made to FEMA through the chief executive officer of the community, since it is the community that must adopt any changes and revisions to the map. If the request for a LOMR is not submitted through the chief executive officer of the community, evidence must be submitted that the community has been notified of the request.

To obtain an application for a LOMR, visit <a href="www.fema.gov/national-flood-insurance-program-flood-hazard-mapping/mt-2-application-forms-and-instructions">www.fema.gov/national-flood-insurance-program-flood-hazard-mapping/mt-2-application-forms-and-instructions</a> and download the form "MT-2 Application Forms and Instructions for Conditional Letters of Map Revision and Letters of Map Revision". Visit the "Flood Map-Related Fees" section to determine the cost of applying for a LOMR. For more information about how to apply for a LOMR, call the FEMA Map Information eXchange; toll free, at 1-877-FEMA MAP (1-877-336-2627) to speak to a Map Specialist.

Previously issued mappable LOMCs (including LOMRs) that have been incorporated into the Musselshell County FIRM are listed in Table 27. Please note that this table only includes LOMCs that have been issued on the FIRM panels updated by this map revision. For all other areas within this county, users should be aware that revisions to the FIS Report made by prior LOMRs may not be reflected herein and users will need to continue to use the previously issued LOMRs to obtain the most current data.

**Table 27: Incorporated Letters of Map Change** 

Case Number	Effective Date	Flooding Source	FIRM Panel(s)
16-08-1129P	07/13/2017	Musselshell River	30065C0829C 30065C0833C 30065C0834C 30065C0836C 30065C0837C 30065C0841C
			30065C0853C

#### 6.5.4 Physical Map Revisions

A Physical Map Revisions (PMR) is an official republication of a community's NFIP map to effect changes to base flood elevations, floodplain boundary delineations, regulatory floodways and planimetric features. These changes typically occur as a result of structural works or improvements, annexations resulting in additional flood hazard areas or correction to base flood elevations or SFHAs.

The community's chief executive officer must submit scientific and technical data to FEMA to support the request for a PMR. The data will be analyzed and the map will be revised if warranted. The community is provided with copies of the revised information and is afforded a review period. When the base flood elevations are changed, a 90-day appeal period is provided. A 6-month adoption period for formal approval of the revised map(s) is also provided.

For more information about the PMR process, please visit <u>www.fema.gov</u> and visit the "Flood Map Revision Processes" section.

#### 6.5.5 Contracted Restudies

The NFIP provides for a periodic review and restudy of flood hazards within a given community. FEMA accomplishes this through a national watershed-based mapping needs assessment strategy, known as the Coordinated Needs Management Strategy (CNMS). The CNMS is used by FEMA to assign priorities and allocate funding for new flood hazard analyses used to update the FIS Report and FIRM. The goal of CNMS is to define the validity of the engineering study data within a mapped inventory. The CNMS is used to track the assessment process, document engineering gaps and their resolution, and aid in prioritization for using flood risk as a key factor for areas identified for flood map updates. Visit <a href="www.fema.gov">www.fema.gov</a> to learn more about the CNMS or contact the FEMA Regional Office listed in Section 8 of this FIS Report.

#### 6.5.6 Community Map History

The current FIRM presents flooding information for the entire geographic area of Musselshell County. Previously, separate FIRMs, Flood Hazard Boundary Maps (FHBMs) and/or Flood Boundary and Floodway Maps (FBFMs) may have been prepared for the incorporated communities and the unincorporated areas in the county that had identified SFHAs. Current and historical data relating to the maps prepared for the project area are presented in Table 28, "Community Map History." A description of each of the column headings and the source of the date is also listed below.

- Community Name includes communities falling within the geographic area shown
  on the FIRM, including those that fall on the boundary line, nonparticipating
  communities, and communities with maps that have been rescinded.
  Communities with No Special Flood Hazards are indicated by a footnote. If all
  maps (FHBM, FBFM, and FIRM) were rescinded for a community, it is not listed
  in this table unless SFHAs have been identified in this community.
- Initial Identification Date (First NFIP Map Published) is the date of the first NFIP map that identified flood hazards in the community. If the FHBM has been converted to a FIRM, the initial FHBM date is shown. If the community has never been mapped, the upcoming effective date or "pending" (for Preliminary FIS

Reports) is shown. If the community is listed in Table 28 but not identified on the map, the community is treated as if it were unmapped.

- Initial FHBM Effective Date is the effective date of the first FHBM. This date may be the same date as the Initial NFIP Map Date.
- FHBM Revision Date(s) is the date(s) that the FHBM was revised, if applicable.
- Initial FIRM Effective Date is the date of the first effective FIRM for the community.
- FIRM Revision Date(s) is the date(s) the FIRM was revised, if applicable. This is the revised date that is shown on the FIRM panel, if applicable. As countywide studies are completed or revised, each community listed should have its FIRM dates updated accordingly to reflect the date of the countywide study. Once the FIRMs exist in countywide format, as PMRs of FIRM panels within the county are completed, the FIRM Revision Dates in the table for each community affected by the PMR are updated with the date of the PMR, even if the PMR did not revise all the panels within that community.

The initial effective date for the Musselshell County FIRMs in countywide format was TBD.

**Table 28: Community Map History** 

Community Name	Initial Identification Date	Initial FHBM Effective Date	FHBM Revision Date(s)	Initial FIRM Effective Date	FIRM Revision Date(s)
Musselshell County, Unincorporated areas	05/29/1979	05/29/1979	n/a	03/01/2001	n/a
Roundup, City of	6/28/1974	6/28/1974	4/9/1976	3/18/1986	n/a
Melstone, Town of <sup>1</sup>	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> No Special Flood Hazard Areas Identified

#### SECTION 7.0 - CONTRACTED STUDIES AND COMMUNITY COORDINATION

#### 7.1 Contracted Studies

Table 29 provides a summary of the contracted studies, by flooding source, that are included in this FIS Report.

Table 29: Summary of Contracted Studies Included in this FIS Report

Flooding Source	FIS Report Dated	Contractor	Number	Work Completed Date	Affected Communities
Musselshell River	XX/XX/20XX	Morrison Maierle, Inc	MAS No. 2015-02	April 2016	Musselshell County Unincorporated Areas

## 7.2 Community Meetings

The dates of the community meetings held for this Flood Risk Project and previous Flood Risk Projects are shown in Table 30. These meetings may have previously been referred to by a variety of names (Community Coordination Officer (CCO), Scoping, Discovery, etc.), but all meetings represent opportunities for FEMA, community officials, study contractors, and other invited guests to discuss the planning for and results of the project.

**Table 30: Community Meetings** 

Community	FIS Report Dated	Date of Meeting	Meeting Type	Attended By
Musselshell County, MT Unincorporated Areas	XX/XX/20XX	09/16/2015		Musselshell County Office of Disaster and Emergency Services
			Kickoff	Musselshell County Commissioners
				State Department of Natural Resources and Conservation

#### **SECTION 8.0 – ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

Information concerning the pertinent data used in the preparation of this FIS Report can be obtained by submitting an order with any required payment to the FEMA Engineering Library. For more information on this process, see <a href="https://www.fema.gov">www.fema.gov</a>.

Table 31 is a list of the locations where FIRMs for Musselshell County can be viewed. Please note that the maps at these locations are for reference only and are not for distribution. Also, please note that only the maps for the community listed in the table are available at that particular repository. A user may need to visit another repository to view maps from an adjacent community.

**Table 31: Map Repositories** 

Community	Address	City	State	Zip Code
Melstone, Town of	Melstone Community Center and Town Office 500 Fergus Street	Melstone	МТ	59054
Musselshell County	Emergency Operations Center 704 1 <sup>st</sup> Street East	Roundup	MT	59072
Roundup, City of	City Office Building 34 3 <sup>rd</sup> Avenue West	Roundup	МТ	59072

The National Flood Hazard Layer (NFHL) dataset is a compilation of effective FIRM Databases and LOMCs. Together they create a GIS data layer for a State or Territory. The NFHL is updated as studies become effective and extracts are made available to the public monthly. NFHL data can be viewed or ordered from the website shown in Table 32.

Table 32 contains useful contact information regarding the FIS Report, the FIRM, and other relevant flood hazard and GIS data. In addition, information about the State NFIP Coordinator and GIS Coordinator is shown in this table. At the request of FEMA, each Governor has designated an agency of State or territorial government to coordinate that State's or territory's NFIP activities. These agencies often assist communities in developing and adopting necessary floodplain management measures. State GIS Coordinators are knowledgeable about the availability and location of State and local GIS data in their state.

**Table 32: Additional Information** 

FEMA and the NFIP			
FEMA and FEMA Engineering Library website	www.fema.gov/national-flood-insurance-program-flood-hazard-mapping/engineering-library		
NFIP website	www.fema.gov/national-flood-insurance-program		
NFHL Dataset	msc.fema.gov		

FEMA Region XIII	Denver Federal Center
_	Building 710, Box 25267
	Denver, CO 80225-0267
	(303) 235-4800
	Other Federal Agencies
USGS website	www.usgs.gov
Hydraulic Engineering Center website	www.hec.usace.army.mil
	State Agencies and Organizations
Montana NFIP Coordinator	Traci Sears, CFM Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation 1625 Eleventh Ave. Helena, MT 59601 Phone: (406) 444-6654
Montana Water Operatios Bureau Chief	tsears@mt.gov  Stephen Story, PE, CFM  Montana Department. of Natural Resources and Conservation 1625 Eleventh Ave.  Helena, MT 59601  Phone: (406) 444-6664 sestory@mt.gov
Musselshell County Floodplain Administrator	Adam Carlson, CFM 704 1st Street East Roundup, MT 59072 Phone: (406) 323-2777

# SECTION 9.0 – BIBLIOGRAPHY AND REFERENCES

Table 33 includes sources used in the preparation of and cited in this FIS Report as well as additional studies that have been conducted in the study area.

**Table 33: Bibliography and References** 

Citation in this FIS	Publisher/ Issuer	Publication Title, "Article," Volume, Number, etc.	Author/Editor	Place of Publication	Publication Date/ Date of Issuance	Link
Michael Baker, 2015	Michael Baker International	FIRM Panel Boundary	Michael Baker Internation	Lakewood, CO	2017	
MTDNRC, 2014	Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation	2014 Model Regulatons	DNRC	Helena, MT	2014	http://dnrc.mt.gov/division s/water/operations/floodpl ain-management
Montana State, 2015	Montana State Library	Corporate Limits	Montana State Library	Helena, MT	2017	
Morrison Maierle, Inc 2016	Morrison Maierle, Inc 2017	Musselshell River Floodplain Study – Phase II, Hydraulic Analysis and Floodplain Mapping Report	Morrison Maierle, Inc 2017	Helena, MT	2017	
NRCS, 2014	Natural Resources Conservation Service	Watershed Boundary Dataset	NRCS	Washington, DC	2014	
NRCS, USACE 2012	Natural Resources Conservation Service	Light Detection and Ranging (LiDAR) Survey	NRCS	Bozeman, MT	2012	http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/ wps/portal/nrcs/site/mt/ho me/
USACE, 2010	United States Army Corps of Engineers	HEC-RAS 4.1.0, Hydraulic Modeling Software.	USACE Hydrologic Engineering Center	Davis, CA	2010	http://www.hec.usace.ar my.mil/software/hec-ras/

